

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 25-32, 37-40, 42 and 43 are pending.

Claims 24-28, 33-36, and 39-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolff (U.S. Patent No. 6,185,601) in view of Jantz (U.S. Pat. No. 5,944,838).

It is noted with appreciation that claims 29-32, 37-38, and 42-43 are deemed to recite allowable subject matter. In response, claims 29, 37, and 42 have been rewritten in independent form to include their respective base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 24, Dependent claims have been amended accordingly. For the examiner's convenience, the pending claim sets are:

- claim 29 and dependent claims 25-28 and 30-35;
- claim 37 and dependent claims 38-40; and
- claim 42 and dependent claim 43.


The Section 103 rejection is moot.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,


George B. F. Yee
Reg. No. 37,478

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
GBFY:ftm:cmm
60756077 v1